

THE EVENING STAR.
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CROSBY S. NOYES, Editor

THE STAR has a regular and permanent family circulation much more than the combined circulation of the other Washington dailies. As a News and Advertising Medium it has no competitor.

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Bryan and Hearst.

The most prominent men in the democratic party today are William J. Bryan and William R. Hearst. It looks as if the maneuvering for 1908 might bring them into sharp antagonism.

In the early days of his national leadership Mr. Bryan owed everything to the people. The politicians as a rule were unfriendly to him. Some opposed him openly and even fiercely. They characterized him as a dangerous demagogue. Others supported him under protest, simply to save their own reputations. They felt that they must be "regular" at any cost. Today the politicians are cordial to Mr. Bryan. Men who could not bear him eight years ago, as well as those who then supported him perfunctorily, are mightily taken with him, and lauding him as a wise and safe statesman. Some of Mr. Cleveland's closest friends are sounding his note.

In the case of Mr. Hearst, he owed everything at the start to a few politicians, who under his inspiration undertook to create sentiment in his favor for the place of national standard-bearer. The people were so apathetic that at St. Louis Mr. Hearst could muster but a few delegates. Judge Parker had almost a walkover. Today Mr. Hearst's strength is with the people. The politicians are opposed to him, and are handing together to fight him. August Belmont's friends in New York and Mr. Cleveland's friends in Missouri are now shouting for Mr. Bryan as lustily as any Nebraska democrat ever did, or ever will. Fear of Hearst is making some strange bedfellows. With the masses, however, in New York and elsewhere, the New York editor seems to be making headway.

Now the question comes up, to what extent can the Belmont and the Cleveland people confound with Mr. Bryan's name to Mr. Hearst's name? That is their object. It is reasonably certain that they have not changed their views about him. The man himself has not changed. The most that can be said is that they prefer him to Mr. Hearst, whose progress begins to give them genuine alarm.

When Mr. Bryan lands, the situation will be made very plain to him. Will he assist Mr. Hearst in the latter's effort to down the Belmont people? Or will he assist the Belmont people to down Mr. Hearst? When the Belmont people a few years ago were assisting the republicans to down Mr. Bryan, Mr. Hearst fought valiantly for the Nebraska.

It is a very nice question which awaits the peerless leader, and will test his gratitude as well as his sagacity.

Pennsylvania.

In no other state are political conditions so unusual and so instructive as in Pennsylvania. It has been a republican stronghold since that party was organized. The abolition of protection has alone been sufficient to keep it in line in national contests by majorities that made the party's triumph elsewhere look small by comparison. Two years ago Mr. Roosevelt received a majority of over half a million. There were not enough democrats in evidence to make the race interesting.

This state of affairs, extending over many years, has led to some grave local abuses. Machine politicians have rioted in opportunities growing out of a one-party arrangement. The Camerons began it, and Mr. Quay continued, and enlarged, their methods. At times, indeed, matters became so outrageous and offensive that the people of the state, while remaining loyal to the republican party in national contests, turned to the democracy for a local house-cleaning. Robert E. Pattison was an instrument to this end more than once. Under his leadership the republicans were several times chastised.

Since 1904 there has been an awakening in Pennsylvania which has shaken the commonwealth. In Philadelphia, in Pittsburgh and elsewhere the ruling class has been panned in a way which has caused even the people accustomed to ring rule to wonder and to draw back. Great seemed to lead everywhere. The pickings of bosses, big and little, broke the record. And so there was another revolt, with the result that the republican majority of half a million in 1904 disappeared last year, and a democratic majority of many thousands took its place. The overturn all but paralyzed the men responsible for it.

Today the republicans of Pennsylvania are trying to get together. They must do so in order to win. Two state tickets have been nominated by them, and a divided vote means of course defeat at the polls. The question therefore is, will the reform republicans accept in the place of their own ticket named at Harrisburg yesterday, and if so, can that ticket win as against a strong ticket named by the democrats? The Harrisburg platform is an excellent document, and shows how very potent the cry of reform is at this time. When the men educated by Mr. Quay, and, like him, long indifferent to public sentiment, feel constrained to appeal for votes in such terms, we undoubtedly have assurance that things are looking up in this country.

Local Meat Industries.

With public confidence in the methods of the beef trust seriously shaken, the day of the local butcher may return, to permit competition in the market and a close municipal supervision over the processes and conditions of the trade. Owing to the constant tendency of the past few years toward the concentration of the industry in a few cities of the west, the development of the refrigerator car service and the canned meat trade there has been little encouragement for the local butcher. Indeed, he has been unable to buy his cattle for slaughtering in sufficient numbers to enable him to supply his market if one existed. The farmers of the east have been driven out of the grazing business by the enormous ranches of the west and the complete control over the live stock market exercised by the beef trust, with the assistance of the railways.

A strong prejudice against the corporations which are now held up to public view as guilty of unwholesome practices should result in a demand for home-grown and

home-dressed meats. Much of the land in this part of the country is ideal for cattle raising, and with any assurance of a fair market the farmers of the eastern states would find it profitable to go in for this trade on a liberal scale. With the supply of live stock guaranteed in circumstances to render them comparatively independent of the railroads, through the transport of the animals on the hoof, local butchers could easily meet the demands of their customers.

Of course any tendency toward independent slaughtering by small concerns would meet with determined opposition on the part of the beef trust. Underselling in this and that city would put the consumer to the test of deciding whether to take advantage of the temporarily lower prices offered by the trust or to stand by the local butcher for the sake of the assurance of continued competition and reliable sanitary inspection. A little loyalty to a home industry, a little enlightened and far-seeing self-interest on the part of the consumer, and the fight for fair trade conditions and wholesome meat products would be won.

It is significant that the model abattoir in the New York district, where the laws of health and cleanliness are strictly observed, is in opposition to the trust. It was started by independents whom the trust sought to squeeze out of the market. Every device known to the competition-killing syndicates was applied, but the local public was in sympathy with the independents and their business thrived. Their products had well reputation of being clean and pure. With that example in evidence there would seem to be encouragement for local butchers throughout the country.

The Senate's Minority Leadership.

Who will succeed Mr. Gorman as minority leader in the Senate? During Mr. Gorman's illness the question was often discussed, but of course left open. Now that the senator is gone it will have to be decided.

Mr. Gorman was accorded his place by reason of his large and long experience in politics, as well as by reason of his gifts as a strategist and his equal temperament. His admirers boasted that it was as difficult to mislead him as to rattle him. He, as they claimed, always saw clearly and acted calmly. This, coupled with his many years in office of one kind or another, gave him great prestige. He justified his party's confidence in some things, but failed in others. Since his return to the Senate after an absence of a few years he had not come up to his former mark. Whether it was because of failing health, or of changed conditions in the Senate, opinion is divided. Certain it is that he could not hold his party together in the matter of the Panama canal, and equally certain it seems to be that he could not have improved upon the generalship displayed in the matter of the railroad rate bill. That measure, for several reasons, would have baffled him as it did the democrats who tackled it.

Mr. Bailey is mentioned for the succession, and as a senator he has some very striking qualities. He is, what Mr. Gorman was not, a brilliant speaker. He is what Mr. Gorman was not, a trained lawyer and a man of wide reading. He is probably as good a parliamentarian as was Mr. Gorman. But he is the very opposite of Mr. Gorman in the matter of temperament, and the excitable man is rarely ever a strategist.

Not unlikely, therefore, as cunning and calculation are so necessary in political matters and in legislative work, the Senate's minority leadership may for a time be put into commission, as it were. For part of the duties, his party does not contain Mr. Bailey's equal. He is its best speaker in the Senate, and one of the best read men in general politics and constitutional law on either side of the chamber. But those talents must be supplemented by the talents that Mr. Gorman possessed, in order that the minority may fully improve its opportunities. Who may be relied upon to supply them? David B. Hill would meet the emergency single-handed, for to the Gorman gift for strategy he unites the Bailey gift for debate and the Bailey knowledge of law. But Mr. Hill by party decree, as Mr. Gorman now by death, is out of the Senate forever.

Merely a Matter of Geography.

In the New York Tribune appears the following dispatch from Lexington, Ky., which is worthy of prayerful consideration by the members of Congress who are discussing the packing house problem and listening to the asseverations of representatives of the beef trust that its methods are above reproach.

In the circuit court here today, Swift & Co. of Chicago, packers, confessed that they had sold adulterated meat here and were fined \$25 in each of five cases. It is expected that other indictments will be made of this and probably other companies. Swift & Co. attorneys said that impure meat was sent here by mistake, and had been intended for the Ohio trade. If enacted into law it would enable them to ship city and state inspection without undergoing any of the inconveniences of adequate federal inspection. It is worse than no law at all, for it is a piece of hypocritical false pretenses, and should be branded as a public fraud.

A Public Fraud.

Better no federal legislation at all for the inspection of packing-house products than the disreputable and dishonest substitute for the Beveridge amendment which Messrs. Lorimer and Wadsworth have submitted to the House committee on agriculture. The amendment does not provide for an honest or an effective system of inspection. It is a contemptible subterfuge in the interests of the packers. If enacted into law it will enable them to ship city and state inspection without undergoing any of the inconveniences of adequate federal inspection. It is worse than no law at all, for it is a piece of hypocritical false pretenses, and should be branded as a public fraud.

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From the New York Herald.

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The Jury of the People.

From the Louisville Times.

If the packers are not poisoners they'll have a chance to prove it in an open court where the jury is too large to pack.

Bryan!

From the Baltimore American.

Will it be Bryan for 1908, Bryan for 1912, Bryan for 1916, and so forth?

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Life insurance, Standard Oil, coal road stock, deviled ham. What next?

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Sign of Prosperity.

From the Portland (Me.) Express.

The diploma crop will be the largest on record.

Immigration Practice.

A New York immigrant inspector has barred a young Irishman who seeks admission in order to ply his trade as an expert hand in order of lines. The reason alleged for his exclusion is that as an athlete the man has in the past so exerted his body that he is now suffering from "muscular distemper," and while his health is at present perfect, he is liable to become a physical wreck in a few years.

The examination of immigrants for physical defects is designed primarily to prevent the entrance of persons suffering from contagious or infectious diseases. Too much care cannot be exercised in this direction. The more rigid the standards the better for the public health. But it may be questioned whether "muscular distemper" is of a character to spread in the United States in consequence of young Murphy's admission.

While the physicians and inspectors are

busy with finding flaws in the physical constitutions of immigrants a good many people are doubtless slipping through whose moral characters and whose views of social questions are of a nature to menace the welfare of this country. In the act of straining at gnats we are swallowing camels. Give the Irish linen expert a chance. He will probably be a better citizen than thousands of those who come in for the sake of the earnings of a few years, only to go back to Europe to spend their savings, or, if they stay here, to become centers of disturbance.

Diaz.

President Diaz will lose no sleep over the information that an organization exists in St. Louis whose object is his overthrow. St. Louis is a long distance from base, and the Mexican official is pretty firmly in his seat. Playing at conspiracy is a fad with some people. It amuses them, and does nobody any harm. There is probably not a country in the world where a few men may not be found full of remedies for the correction of all defects of government. But such men are not anarchists. Dynamite is not their weapon. They enjoy life all the more for seeing things as though a glass darkly, and for pouring out their sympathies for imaginary woes. General Diaz has done his country great service, and in nothing has shown more wisdom than in making progressive Americans welcome within its borders.

The chief of police of Paterson, N. J., puts his hand on his heart and says there are no bad anarchists in his town. He says that the world is now inclined to give the Paterson dog a bad name. But it was such a bad dog to start with!

The Pearse slate went through the Pennsylvania convention without a scratch. Bossism has not been completely eliminated from the Keystone state.

A Winsted, Conn., blacksmith does dentistry on the side. Some patients are inclined to think their dentists are blacksmiths all the time.

Grover Cleveland should send his condolences to Emperor Nicholas for having a duma on his hands.

The meat packers are making a noise like a small boy in communion with the parental slipper.

Guatemalan revolutionists are winning victories rather regularly for officially crushed insurgents.

Reports indicate that John D. Rockefeller was a regular cut-up on the steamer to Europe.

SHOOTING STARS.

Judged by Their Deserts.

"Do you think that a dog is a man's best friend?"

"I don't know," answered Miss Cayenne. "I have occasionally met people who I didn't think deserved any better."

Striving to Please.

"Do you expect to raise any hay this year?"

"Not much," answered Mr. Cornstossel. "Only just enough to make the place look like a farm so's to satisfy the feelin's of the summer boarders."

Taking No Chances.

Some folks is like de whilpoorwill. Dat keeps a-goin' 'cause dey's 'fraid if ever dey keep still Dar won't be no applause.

A Chilly Comparison.

"Which is better, brains or money?"

"Well," answered Mr. Dustin Stax, "I hate to say it, but it seems to me that people with brains always have to have money, while people with money can, on a pinch, manage to get on without help."

Titles.

"You must remember," said the heiress who was talking about her love affairs, "that he is of noble lineage."

"Yes," answered Miss Cayenne, "but we should not select husbands as we do books, merely because we like the titles."

Lesser Lights.

The meteor with its brilliant light. Doth dim the glow worm's third flame. As men in splendid, transient might, Outshine the teller's scanty flame.

The meteor falls and none admire The stone that once illumined the skies. The glow worm sets its steadfast fire To light the place in which it lies.

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